GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:768
ANSWERED ON:07.02.2017
Foodgrain from Central Pool
Roy Prof. Saugata;Tanwar Shri Kanwar Singh

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the criteria followed for release of foodgrains from Central Pool to various States of the country;
(b) whether any State Government demanded for foodgrains from central pool and if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether the Government has noticed that a lot of undeserving people including income tax payees are included in the present BPL beneficiaries list of the country;
(d) whether the Government has taken serious action to implement the Food Security laws in the country, if so, the details thereof; and
(e) whether the Government is providing adequate supply and necessary support to State/Union Territory Governments for distribution of foodgrains and essential commodities including edible oils through Public Distribution System (PDS), if so, the details thereof and the quantum of foodgrains, essential commodities supplied to various States/ Union Territories during the last three years?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)
(a) & (b) The National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA), which came into force w.e.f. 5th July, 2013 seeks to provide for food and nutritional security in human life cycle approach, by ensuring access to adequate quantity of quality food at affordable prices to people to live a life with dignity. NFSA provides for coverage of upto 75% of the rural population and upto 50% of the urban population at the all India level for receiving highly subsidized foodgrains
...2/-
...2...
under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). Corresponding to this, State/UT-wise coverage was determined by the then Planning Commission. With the coverage determination for each State/UT, the eligible households identified by State Governments/UT Administrations are entitled to receive subsidized foodgrains as per their entitlements prescribed in the Act. Under the Act, foodgrains are allocated @ 5kg per person per month for priority households and @ 35kg per family per month for Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) households at highly subsidized prices of Re.1/-, Rs.2/- and Rs.3/- per kg for coarse grains, wheat and rice respectively. Under Other Welfare Schemes (OWS), the criteria adopted for allocation to various States/UTs is subject to availability of foodgrains in the central Pool. Apart from this, Food Corporation of India (FCI) also releases surplus stocks of foodgrains out of Central Pool in the open market under Open Market Sales Scheme (OMSS) (D) through e-auction.
(c) Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State/UT Governments. Central Government is responsible for procurement, allocation and transportation of foodgrains upto the designated depots of the Food Corporation of India (FCI). The operational responsibilities for allocation of foodgrains within the States/UTs, distribution of foodgrains to eligible beneficiaries under TPDS and supervision over and monitoring and functioning of fair price shops etc. rest with the State/UT Governments. Under the NFSA and TPDS control order, beneficiaries are identified under two categories namely (i) Antyodaya Anna Yojna and (ii) Priority Households.
TPDS (Control) Order, 2015 stipulates that State/UT Governments are required to review the lists of beneficiaries every year for the purpose of deletion of ineligible families and inclusion of eligible families. State/UT Governments have been requested from time to time to carry out drives for reviewing the list of beneficiaries under TPDS. The exercise of deletion of bogus/ineligible cards and inclusion of eligible families is a continuous process and State/UT Governments are to periodically carry out the same.
(d): As of 1st November, 2016 all the 36 States/UTs have implemented NFSA and being allocated foodgrains as per their entitlement under NFSA.
(e): Yes, Madam. The details are as under:
Foodgrains: Central and State Governments mutually bear the expenditure on lifting and intra-State transportation of food grains and fair price shop dealers' commission.
The quantum of foodgrains supplied under NFSA to States/Union Territories during the last three years is as under:
...3/-
...3...
(in thousand tons)

Year	Rice	Wheat	Total
2013-14	26849.980	23253.010	50102.990
2014-15	30420.453	21592.460	

52012.913
2015-16
28406.376
23934.056
52340.432
The quantum of foodgrains supplied under Other Welfare Scheme (OWS) to States/Union Territories during the last three years is as under:
(in thousand tons)
Year
Rice
Wheat
Total
2013-14
3290.785
1578.820
4869.605
2014-15
3465.984
1663.828
5129.812
2015-16
3507.747
1590.913
5098.660
Sugar: The Central Government has decontrolled the sugar sector by removing the levy obligation on sugar mills from 2012-13 sugar seasons. Under the new dispensation of sugar distribution through PDS effective from June 2013, the State Government/UTs have been asked to procure it from the open market through a transparent system and make it available at the retail issue price of Rs. 13.50 per kg. However, the State Governments/UTs may either absorb the additional cost, if any, on account of handling, transportation and dealer's commission or pass it on to consumers by including it in the RIP. However, the Central Government is reimbursing fixed subsidy to the States/UT's @ Rs. 18.50 per kg limited to the quantity based on their existing fixed quota. The quantity of sugar distributed by the State Government/UTs under the new dispensation during last three years is as under:
Year
Sugar (in tons)
2013-14
1218253.64
2014-15
1768445.90
2015-16
2297574.08
Kerosene: Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, Government of India makes Quarterly Allocation of PDS SKO to States/UTs under the Public Distribution System (PDS) for the purpose of cooking and illumination only as provided under the SKO Control Order, 1993. Further distribution of the PDS SKO within the State/UT through their PDS network to ration card holders is the responsibility State/UT Government. The scale and criteria of PDS SKO distribution are also decided by the respective States/UTs. The allocation of PDS Kerosene during the last three years is as under:
Year
Kerosene (in KL)
2013-14
9086858
2014-15
8975538
2015-16
8685384
At present, Government is not providing supply and necessary support to State/Union Territory Governments for distribution of edible oils through PDS.
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